

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claim 29 has been amended to correct a typographical error and to further clarify that the destination field of the Ethernet packet includes information identifying which block of the TDM stream the TDM frame written into the payload field originated from. This amendment finds direct support in the Specification as originally filed, for example at paragraphs 8 and 13, and Figure 3. Accordingly no new matter is added.

The Advisory Action seems to indicate that the rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph have been removed, but that as originally presented claim 29 was being rejected in light of Keenan, US 6,215,789. It is not clear whether this rejection was for anticipation or obviousness.

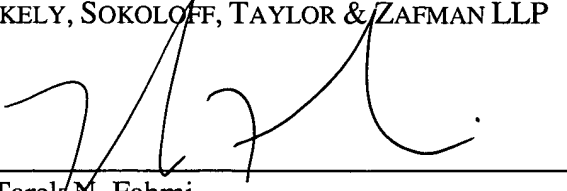
Regardless of the basis for the rejection, claim 29, as amended, is patentable over Keenan. The Keenan reference describes a communication switching module (CSM) in which certain signaling information is encapsulated in Ethernet packets. See Keenan at col. 13, ll. 5 – 30. The signaling information appears to be TDM information inasmuch as it is transmitted “over the TDM Highway”. Id. at col. 13, ll. 8. The Ethernet packet has a “standard Ethernet packet header” into which is written a UTE Adapter MAC SA for use as a destination address (DA). Id. at col. 13, ll. 18 – 21. This UTE Adapter MAC SA is the hardware address (specifically the Media Access Controller Source Address) of the network component (the User Terminal Equipment) being connected to the CSM. However, there is no teaching or suggestion that any information identifying which block of the TDM stream the TDM frame written into the payload field of the Ethernet packet originated from is written into the destination field of that packet as presently claimed. Accordingly, claim 29 is patentable over Keenan.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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